



Position Summary:

The Center for Ecosystem Science and Society (Ecos) at Northern Arizona University (NAU) is seeking applications for a Postdoctoral Scholar in northern ecosystem ecology. This position will work on a recently funded National Science Foundation research project to investigate how increasing wildfire severity and frequency will change carbon storage in northern boreal and tundra ecosystems. The successful candidate will work with NAU scientists in Ecos and collaborating scientists at Woodwell Climate Research Center to complete fieldwork in remote areas of Alaska, conduct laboratory work and data analyses, lead international synthesis activities, and prepare and submit manuscripts for publication. The position will be based in Flagstaff, AZ and the expected start date is Fall 2022.

Project Description:

The research project will assess where and how rapidly high-latitude ecosystems are shifting from a net carbon sink to a net carbon source via increasing wildfires and the combustion of organic soil carbon. The successful candidate will use extensive field measurements, radiocarbon dating of soils, and dendrochronology to develop a mechanistic understanding of the interactions between fire severity, stand age at the time of fire, and soil drainage on soil carbon combustion. The candidate will also work to determine if our understanding of these controls is applicable across a wide range of burned boreal and tundra study systems across the circumpolar region through synthesis activities with international research groups.

Minimum qualifications:

- PhD in Ecology, Biology, Biogeochemistry, or appropriate subject discipline
- Record of publishing peer-reviewed research in scientific journals

Preferred qualifications:

- Experience designing, conducting, and supervising fieldwork
- Ability to complete and oversee laboratory work related to processing soils and plants for biogeochemical analyses
- Demonstrated expertise with quantitative statistical analyses in R or other programming languages
- Coursework and/or research experience in ecology, biogeochemistry, soil science, forestry, and/or ecosystem ecology.
- Experience organizing workshops and meetings (virtual/in-person)
- Ability to work collaboratively as part of a research team and with individuals from a variety of cultural backgrounds

For more information and to apply see [Job ID 606009 at NAU Staff Job Openings](#)

For questions contact Xanthe Walker (xanthe.walker@nau.edu)